



NEWS RELEASE

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***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 23, 2006***

Former Bismarck Man Sentenced to 14 Years on Drug Charge

BISMARCK - United States Attorney Drew H. Wrigley announced that on May 22, 2006, **Jose Cristobal Alvarez, a/k/a Cris Alvarez**, of Dallas, Texas, and formerly of Bismarck and Sioux County, North Dakota, was sentenced before United States District Court Chief Judge Daniel L. Hovland on a charge of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute and distribute a controlled substance.

Alvarez, 32, pleaded guilty on March 7, 2006. The conspiracy occurred in August 2005 in North Dakota and Texas where **Alvarez** conspired with others to possess with intent to distribute 500 grams or more of methamphetamine. **Alvarez** specifically admitted to obtaining and providing approximately two pounds of methamphetamine (903 grams) in Dallas, TX, on August 19, 2005, for delivery to North Dakota. The methamphetamine was to be distributed to purchasers in North Dakota.

Judge Hovland sentenced **Alvarez** to serve 14 years in Federal prison, 10 years of supervised release after the completion of his sentence, and a \$100 special assessment to the Crime Victim's Fund.

Co-conspirators, **Peter Martinez**, 31, Dallas, Texas, and **Crystal White Mountain**, 24, Bismarck, North Dakota, were previously sentenced on charges of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute and distribute the two pounds of methamphetamine.

Judge Hovland sentenced **Martinez** on January 12, 2006, to serve three years and 10 months in Federal prison, five years of supervised release, and a \$100 special assessment to the Crime Victim's Fund.

Judge Hovland sentenced **White Mountain** on January 31, 2006, to serve nine years in Federal prison, five years of supervised release, and a \$100 special assessment to the Crime Victim's Fund.

The investigation was spearheaded by the Bismarck Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Administration, with assistance from the Metro Area Narcotics Task Force (which is comprised of the North Dakota Bureau of Criminal Investigation, Burleigh and Morton County Sheriff's Departments, and the Bismarck and Mandan Police Departments), the United States Marshals Service, the West Dakota SWAT Team, and the Burleigh County State's Attorney's Office.

Special Assistant United States Attorney Paul Emerson prosecuted the case.

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